

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY  
OFFICE OF FOSSIL ENERGY AND CARBON MANAGEMENT

HOUSTON PIPE LINE COMPANY LP

DOCKET NO. 21-141-NG

ORDER GRANTING BLANKET AUTHORIZATION  
TO IMPORT AND EXPORT NATURAL GAS  
FROM AND TO MEXICO

DOE/FECM ORDER NO. 4792

JANUARY 28, 2022

## **I. DESCRIPTION OF REQUEST**

On December 8, 2021, Houston Pipe Line Company LP (Houston Pipe Line) filed an application with the Office of Fossil Energy and Carbon Management (FECM) of the Department of Energy (DOE) requesting blanket authorization under section 3 of the Natural Gas Act (NGA)<sup>1</sup> for the authority summarized in the list below. The applicant requests the authorization for a two-year term beginning on March 1, 2022.<sup>2</sup> Houston Pipe Line is a Delaware limited partnership with its principal place of business in Dallas, Texas.

1. Import natural gas from Mexico by pipeline at any point on the border between the United States and Mexico
2. Export natural gas to Mexico by pipeline at any point on the border between the United States and Mexico

Import and export authority was requested for up to a combined total volume equivalent to 600 billion cubic feet (Bcf) of natural gas.

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1. Authority to regulate the imports and exports of natural gas, including liquefied natural gas, under section 3 of the NGA (15 U.S.C. § 717b) has been delegated to the Assistant Secretary for Fossil Energy in Redelegation Order No. S4-DEL-FE1-2021, issued on March 25, 2021. On July 4, 2021, the Office of Fossil Energy changed its name to the Office of Fossil Energy and Carbon Management.

2. Houston Pipe Line's blanket authorization, granted in DOE/FE Order No. 4483, extends through February 28, 2022.

## II. **FINDING**

DOE has evaluated the application to determine if the proposed import and/or export arrangements meet the public interest requirement of section 3 of the NGA, as amended by section 201 of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (Pub. L. 102-486). Under NGA section 3(c), imports and exports of natural gas, including liquefied natural gas (LNG), from or to any country with which the United States has entered into a free trade agreement (FTA) requiring national treatment for trade in natural gas and the import of LNG from other international sources are deemed to be consistent with the public interest.<sup>3</sup> DOE must grant such applications without modification or delay.<sup>4</sup> The authorization sought by Houston Pipe Line meets the NGA section 3(c) criteria, and, therefore, is deemed to be consistent with the public interest.

## **ORDER**

Pursuant to section 3(c) of the NGA, it is ordered that:

A. Houston Pipe Line is authorized for the activity described in the list below. This authorization shall be effective for a two-year term beginning on March 1, 2022, and extending through February 29, 2024.

1. Import natural gas from Mexico by pipeline at any point on the border between the United States and Mexico
2. Export natural gas to Mexico by pipeline at any point on the border between the United States and Mexico

The applicant is authorized to import and export up to a combined total volume equivalent to 600 Bcf of natural gas.

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3. 15 U.S.C. § 717b(c).

4. *Id.*

B. **Monthly Reports:** With respect to the imports and/or exports authorized by this Order, Houston Pipe Line shall file with the Office of Regulation, Analysis, and Engagement, within 30 days following the last day of each calendar month, a report on Form FE-746R indicating whether imports and/or exports have been made. Monthly reports must be filed whether or not initial deliveries have begun. If no imports and/or exports have been made, a report of "no activity" for that month must be filed. If imports and/or exports have occurred, the report must provide the information specified for each applicable activity and mode of transportation, as set forth in the Guidelines for Filing Monthly Reports. These Guidelines are available at: <https://www.energy.gov/fe/services/natural-gas-regulation/guidelines-filing-monthly-reports>.

(Approved by the Office of Management and Budget under OMB Control No. 1901-0294)

C. The first monthly report required by this Order is due not later than April 30, 2022, and should cover the reporting period from March 1, 2022 through March 31, 2022.

Issued in Washington, D.C., on January 28, 2022.

*Amy R. Sweeney*

Amy R. Sweeney

Director, Office of Regulation, Analysis, & Engagement

Office of Resource Sustainability

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Digitally signed by Amy R. Sweeney. Date: 2022.01.28 05:17:33 -05:00